


R E M A R K S

By this Preliminary Amendment, a discussion of prior art references has been inserted into the specification on page 2, original claim 1 has been replaced by new claim 16, and the multiple dependency of some of the claims has been removed so as to avoid the surcharge associated therewith. In addition, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been provided. These changes correspond to the changes in the International Office, and no new matter is being introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encls.: Abstract

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 8, 1999.


Ingrid Mittendorf